

*Life does not consist
in the abundance of
... possessions*



LUKE 12:15

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

August 3, 2025

BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Pastor Joe Leech

Our Mission

“To Know Jesus and to Make Him Known”

Our Vision

Educate, Equip and Encourage ourselves and our families through worship and study, and engage our community through discipleship, example and Acts of Kindness, using the unique gifts bestowed on each member of our congregation by the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Worship Information

Parents with Young Children: We encourage families to worship together.

Worship Bulletin: Our order of service is printed out in your worship folder.

Worship Form: There are 5 “Movements” in our Worship.

- God grants us the gift of forgiveness.
- God speaks to us from His Word.
- God receives our offerings and prayers.
- God offers us His real presence in Holy Communion.
- God blesses us and sends us out.

Communion: Please read the Statement of Communion below.

(If you are *gluten intolerant* please speak with Pastor or an elder prior to the worship service so we can accommodate you.)

STATEMENT OF COMMUNION

BECAUSE THE WORD OF GOD TEACHES THAT:

- We are all sinners in need of forgiveness.
- Jesus is our only Savior from sin through His death and resurrection.
- The True Body and Blood of Christ is present in the Sacrament of the Holy Communion



Please see Pastor if you have any questions about this or do not believe in the Lord's Supper in this way. You are welcome to come forward for a blessing if you are not communing.

- Please see Pastor if there is something going on in your life that needs the attention of Christ in private confession *and* absolution.

AS WE GATHER-- Golfers enjoy getting a mulligan—a free shot or do-over. As we look back on our lives, we sometimes see times that we wish we could go back to and have a mulligan. We would like to be able to go back and make a different decision or fix a mistake we made. We cannot turn back time. God gives us something better. He gives us a new life—a fresh start that we get to celebrate every day as we remember our Baptism and the riches God gives us.

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WITNESS AND OUTREACH-- Luke 12:13-21: Jesus told the Parable of the Rich Fool to remind us that real life in Christ is about much more than material possessions. Many people around us are rich in things of this world, but poor in spiritual things. Isn't it great that we who have been made rich in Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit have great spiritual news to share with those who are struggling in spiritual darkness? Share the riches of God's grace freely.

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WELCOME to GUESTS & VISITORS

Hymns will be from the Lutheran Service Book (LSB).

 **HYMN**

✠ PREPARATION ✠

“God Himself Is Present”

LSB 907

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 24:1–2; 127:2; 147:9; Matthew 6:26; James 1:17; Exodus 20:3; Colossians 3:5–6*

Pastor: The earth is the Lord’s and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein, for He has founded it upon the seas and established it upon the rivers.

People: He gives to the beasts their food, and to the young ravens that cry.

Pastor: Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?

People: It is in vain that you rise up early and go late to rest, eating the bread of anxious toil; for He gives to His beloved sleep.

Pastor: Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.

People: The First Commandment reminds us, “You shall have no other gods before Me.”

Pastor: Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry.

People: **On account of these the wrath of God is coming.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pause for silent reflection and self examination.

Pastor: Almighty God,

People: **You are the giver of everything we have. Yet, we are guilty of coveting the possessions, experiences, and social standing of others. We sin by valuing these things above You. For Jesus' sake, forgive our sins. Renew us in Your knowledge and conform us to Your image by the power of the Holy Spirit.**

Pastor: “For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sake He became poor, so that you by His poverty might become rich” (2 Corinthians 8:9). We receive the riches of God’s forgiveness because of Jesus. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

☩ WORD ☩



HYMN OF PRAISE “Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

LSB 809

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. O God, You are the giver of all that we have, including all that we are. We praise and thank You for blessing us with family, friends, opportunities, jobs, and possessions. Guide us to be good stewards of all You generously give to us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

FIRST READING *Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12–14; 2:18–26* (Enjoying your work is a gift from God.)

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM *Psalm 100*

Lector: Know that the Lord, He is God!

People: **It is He who made us, and we are His; we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture.**

Lector: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!

People: **Serve the Lord with gladness!**

Lector: Come into His presence with singing!

People: **Know that the Lord, He is God!**

Lector: It is He who made us, and we are His; we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture.

People: **Enter His gates with thanksgiving, and His courts with praise!**

Lector: Give thanks to Him; bless His name!

People: **For the Lord is good; His steadfast love endures forever, and His faithfulness to all generations.**

Lector: Know that the Lord, He is God!

People: **It is He who made us, and we are His; we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture.**

EPISTLE *Colossians 3:1–11* (Live as the people you are in Christ.)

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

HOLY GOSPEL *Luke 12:13–34* (Trust in the Giver of all that is good.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twelfth chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

(The Gospel is read.)

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

 **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

 **HYMN** "Praise and Thanksgiving" LSB 789

SERMON

CREED *Apostles' Creed*

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived
by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day
He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right
hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the
living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the
communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and
for all people according to their needs.



HYMN

“Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us” LSB 851, vs.1

Pastor: Lord of Glory, You created this world and everything in it,
and You continue to rule over it. We praise and thank You for
being our Good Shepherd who daily and richly provides for
us. Thank You for laying down Your life for us and taking it
back up again. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.



HYMN

“Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us” LSB 851, vs.2

Pastor: Almighty God, we praise and thank You for all the blessings
You generously give us. We thank You for our families,
friends, opportunities, vocations, and possessions. Lead us to
be good stewards of all that You place into our hands. Guard
our hearts against selfishness, arrogance, and pride. Lord, in
Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.




HYMN

“Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us” LSB 851, vs.3

Pastor: Gracious God, You promised Abram that You would bless
him to be a blessing. We, too, are truly blessed as we freely
receive the riches of Your kingdom. We praise and thank You
for the riches of Your Word and the forgiveness we
graciously receive at Your Table. Empower us by Your love

to care for the widow, the orphan, the poor, and the needy.
We pray now for all who are struggling in body, mind, and
spirit, [*especially* . . .]. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

 **HYMN** “Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us” LSB 851, vs.4

Pastor: Glorious Lord, we praise and thank You for calling us by the Gospel, enlightening us with Your gifts, and sanctifying and keeping us in the one true faith. We pray for those in our families, workplaces, and neighborhoods who are near to us but far from You. Pour Your love, mercy, and grace into their lives and bring them to faith in You. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Lord Jesus, we lift these prayers to You, trusting in Your mercy to hear and answer us according to Your good and gracious will. In Your glorious name, we pray.

People: Amen.

OFFERTORY (in offering plate at entrance to sanctuary)

 **HYMN** “We Give Thee But Thine Own” LSB 781

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE 2 Timothy 4:22

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

 **SANCTUS** “Holy, Holy, Holy” LSB 161

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of power and might:

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24;
Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and

gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST *1 Cor. 11:26; Revelation 22:20*

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

People: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Pastor: O Lord Jesus Christ, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD’S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: **And also with you. Amen.**



AGNUS DEI “Lamb of God” LSB 163

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

See LSB 329: Christian Questions with Their Answers prepared by Dr. Martin Luther for those who intend to go to the Sacrament.



NOTE: Pastor will come around again, offering the COMMON CUP.



DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

“Amazing Grace”	LSB 744
“Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me”	LSB 761
“The Gifts Christ Freely Gives”	LSB 602

COMMUNION DISMISSAL

Pastor: Now this, the Body and Blood of Christ, crucified, risen and ascended, strengthen you, nourish you and keep you steadfast in the true faith to life everlasting. Depart in peace.

People: **Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray. Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us the gifts of life, forgiveness, and salvation through Your one and only Son. Set our hearts on things above, not on the things of this earth, so that when Your Son appears again, we will also appear with Him in glory; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24–26*

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

People: **Amen.**



HYMN “Take My Life and Let It Be” **LSB 783**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENDING

Pastor: Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series C, Quarter 3.

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NEXT WEEK’S READINGS:

OLD TESTAMENT READING Genesis 15:1-6

EPISTLE Hebrews 11:1-16

HOLY GOSPEL Luke 12:22-34

TITHE & OFFERING – our sacrifice of thanksgiving to the Lord

Our “**tithes**” are our first fruits returned to God in proportional, joyful, thankful and faithful response to His grace. “**Offerings**” are special gifts for ministries, memorials and needs over and above the tithe.

(If you are a guest, we welcome you as a guest. Please do not feel obligated to give an offering unless you feel moved to do so by the Spirit.)

July Financial Recap:

July Givings (Thank you!):	\$33,925.06
Monthly Need:	<u>\$17,812.08</u>
Overage:	\$16,112.98

Parking Lot Project:

\$73,603
Goal: \$100,000
(\$13,509.15 remains on the \$50,000 loan.)

We had a large IRA donation in July. Praise God! YTD, we are now \$1,683.55 short to be fully funded according to the approved budget for the year. Fantastic!

Scrip Profits 7/14/25-7/27/25: \$14.75

Life Quote: **August 3** “God isn’t a page in your book, you’re part of His. And He’s delighted to have you in the family.” Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler, *The Lutheran Hour – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life* • lutheransforlife.org

CALENDAR:

Tuesdays—9am Orphan Grain Train packing

August 11-13—VBS @ BSLC, 6-7:30pm

August 11—Project Fresh Start Donations Due

August 19—Governance Board Mtg., 6:30pm

August 20—LifeLine Screening @ BSLC (We have some vouchers for free screenings, first come first serve.)



Lawnmowers Needed: We will need volunteers to mow the lawn throughout the summer. Please sign up on the board in the narthex. We have a super nice “new-to-us” riding mower!



Project Fresh Start: Beautiful Savior is a collection site for Portage County’s Project Fresh Start. If you are willing and able to donate new school supplies, please bring items to church **by August 11th**. There is a collection table in the narthex along with lists of items students will need. Thank you in advance!

Women's Bible Study: We will be starting "Stepping Out to a Life on the Edge" by Deb Burma on Monday, August 25th at 6pm. "It's only because Jesus offers guidance and strength that we can step out of our comfort zone and serve Him in whatever capacity we are called to serve. We can trust Him. Jesus steps in, so we can step out!" Let the office know if you are interested in joining us in this study and we will order the books.

Central Wisconsin Lutheran High School:

- Coming in the fall of 2026!
- The website is live! cwlhs.com Will you join the 500@50 Challenge? We're looking for 500 people to pledge \$50 a month in support of Christian Education at the High School level. What a blessing this will be for our young people in Plover, Stevens Point, Wisconsin Rapids, and beyond! Automatic monthly donations can be set up at cwlhs.com under the "Giving" tab.



Camp Luther: Women's Retreat, September 26-28. "Ladies, we'd love to welcome you to camp this fall for our annual Women's Retreat. This year, we are thrilled to welcome Jan Struck as our main speaker as she shares the idea of Prayer without Ceasing. Visit camluther.com/adults to register and learn more about this year's women's retreat." Teresa can help you register if interested!

VBS: August 11-13, 6-7:30pm: What does God say about these words in His Word?



Students ages 5-12 are invited for Bible stories, crafts, singing, snacks, and fun (the whole family is invited to stay)! Please RSVP so we can be sure we have enough supplies for everyone. (715) 341-2898 or secretary@bsavior.onmicrosoft.com. Volunteers and youth helpers will be needed as well! Thank you in advance.

PB&J Drive: Help stock the shelves! We are accepting donations of non-perishable peanut butter and jelly to help families in need in our community. This drive is in conjunction with the Family Christian Radio Station. There is a collection box in the narthex, and we will be accepting donations August 1-31. Thank you!

Prayer Walkers

We are seeking several groups of people to serve as prayer walkers.

Join Pastor and others each week as we walk the neighborhoods around the church, stopping every few houses to pray for those in the area. We also need folks to do the same in the neighborhoods where you live. We are praying for God's blessing on the ministries that happen at BSLC, for the needs of the people in the neighborhoods we walk, and that those who are lost will receive the gifts of faith and salvation. Come see how the Lord moves people to prayer for our community and neighbors including their illnesses and the difficulties of life as they become known to us.



**"Then you will
call upon me and
come and pray to
me, and I will
listen to you."**

Jeremiah 29:12





A Gang of Prayer Warriors

If you have the gift of intercessory prayer or just a strong desire to converse with Your Lord and Savior, please consider prayerfully joining a group of 7-10 people who will cover and bathe the BSLC/CWLHS ministries in prayer throughout the week. We are especially looking for **focused prayer from 9:30- 10:30am daily** to ask God to grow these ministries in depth and breadth and to protect them from the assaults of the evil one.



This team of prayer bandits will also be our prayer warriors who will receive urgent and emergent prayer requests as they come in.

**“THE PRAYER OF A
RIGHTEOUS MAN IS
POWERFUL AND
EFFECTIVE.”**

JAMES 5:16B

Beautiful Savior Lutheran Prayer List : 8/3/2025 – 8/9/2025

Ongoing prayers for Grief & Loss: (Named & Not Named):

Family of Art Holford; Schultz Family; Family of Sharon Hughes; Family of Barb (11/7/2024) and Barry (7/7/2025) Winrich

Situations:

Suicide Attempts, Cancer, Christian Parenting, Caregivers, AODA (those struggling with alcohol and other substance abuse), those struggling with mental health

Military: Devante; Emily; Nick

Pending Diagnosis & Treatment:

Ken Resch (Father of Julie Barge); Sandy Wagoner

Hospitalized/Recovering:

Circuit 17:

St Luke-Rapids (continuing the Call process for a Pastor); Bethlehem-Nekoosa (continuing the Call process for a Pastor)

Shut-ins: Mary S.; Anita C.

Birthdays:

8/3 Amelia Crozer

8/3 Charles Crozier

8/5 Lee Loomis

8/9 Romie Kropidlowski

Baptism Birthdays:

8/3 Collin Lockman

8/5 Desi Harhay

Anniversaries:

8/4 Werner & Heidi Gross (35 yrs)

8/4 Mike & Bonnie Krueger (41 yrs)

Missions:

First Choice Resource Center

Camp Luther

Peace Campus Center & Pastor Andy

Weden

St. Paul Lutheran Elementary School

Immanuel Lutheran School

Central WI Lutheran High School

Wycliffe & Lutheran Bible Translators &

Linda Jordan

J.P. & Aimee Cima & Family

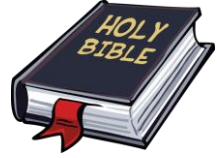
Orphan Grain Train Center

Christ Care / Carpenter's Crew

***Please let us know if you have any prayer requests – Thank you! ***

August 3-9, 2025

Week 32 “Bible in a Year” Questions:



Judges 17-21, Ruth 1-2:

1. How does chapter 17 illustrate corruption in Israelite worship?
2. How does chapter 19 illustrate corruption in Israel's morals?
3. How are Naomi and Ruth related?
4. How was Boaz kind to Ruth and why (Ruth 2)?

Jeremiah 30-37:

1. Why does Jehoiakim burn Jeremiah's scroll in ch. 36?
2. Jeremiah had some very difficult prophecies from God to communicate to the people. How would you have felt if you had been in his shoes?

Acts 21-27:

1. Why was Paul arrested in Jerusalem in ch.21?
2. Why was it significant to note that Paul was a Roman citizen (22:22-29)?
3. What happened when Paul was sailing for Rome (ch.27)? How does Paul continue to show faith in God in verses 33-36?

General Questions to consider:

1. What did you learn from this week's readings?
2. Is there something in these readings that surprised you?
3. What is one passage that encourages or challenges you? How?

Old Testament Reading:
Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-26

² Vanity of vanities, says the Preacher,
vanity of vanities! All is vanity. . . .

¹²I the Preacher have been king over
Israel in Jerusalem. ¹³And I applied my
heart to seek and to search out by wis-
dom all that is done under heaven. It is
an unhappy business that God has given
to the children of man to be busy with. ¹⁴I
have seen everything that is done under
the sun, and behold, all is vanity and a
striving after wind. . . .

^{2:18}I hated all my toil in which I toil
under the sun, seeing that I must leave it
to the man who will come after me, ¹⁹and
who knows whether he will be wise or a
fool? Yet he will be master of all for which I
toiled and used my wisdom under the sun.
This also is vanity. ²⁰So I turned about and
gave my heart up to despair over all the
toil of my labors under the sun, ²¹because
sometimes a person who has toiled with
wisdom and knowledge and skill must
leave everything to be enjoyed by someone
who did not toil for it. This also is vanity
and a great evil. ²²What has a man from all
the toil and striving of heart with which he
toils beneath the sun? ²³For all his days are
full of sorrow, and his work is a vexation.
Even in the night his heart does not rest.
This also is vanity.

²⁴There is nothing better for a person
than that he should eat and drink and find
enjoyment in his toil. This also, I saw, is
from the hand of God, ²⁵for apart from him
who can eat or who can have enjoyment?
²⁶For to the one who pleases him God has
given wisdom and knowledge and joy, but
to the sinner he has given the business of
gathering and collecting, only to give to
one who pleases God. This also is vanity
and a striving after wind.

Epistle: Colossians 3:1-11

¹If then you have been raised with
Christ, seek the things that are above,

where Christ is, seated at the right hand
of God. ²Set your minds on things that are
above, not on things that are on earth. ³For
you have died, and your life is hidden with
Christ in God. ⁴When Christ who is your
life appears, then you also will appear with
him in glory.

⁵Put to death therefore what is earthly in
you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion,
evil desire, and covetousness, which is idol-
atry. ⁶On account of these the wrath of God
is coming. ⁷In these you too once walked,
when you were living in them. ⁸But now
you must put them all away: anger, wrath,
malice, slander, and obscene talk from your
mouth. ⁹Do not lie to one another, seeing
that you have put off the old self with its
practices ¹⁰and have put on the new self,
which is being renewed in knowledge after
the image of its creator. ¹¹Here there is not
Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircum-
cised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but
Christ is all, and in all.

Holy Gospel: Luke 12:13-21

¹³Someone in the crowd said to [Jesus],
"Teacher, tell my brother to divide the
inheritance with me." ¹⁴But he said to him,
"Man, who made me a judge or arbitrator
over you?" ¹⁵And he said to them, "Take
care, and be on your guard against all cov-
etousness, for one's life does not consist in
the abundance of his possessions." ¹⁶And
he told them a parable, saying, "The land of
a rich man produced plentifully, ¹⁷and he
thought to himself, 'What shall I do, for
I have nowhere to store my crops?' ¹⁸And
he said, 'I will do this: I will tear down my
barns and build larger ones, and there I will
store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹And I
will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample
goods laid up for many years; relax, eat,
drink, be merry.' ²⁰But God said to him,
'Fool! This night your soul is required of
you, and the things you have prepared,
whose will they be?' ²¹So is the one who
lays up treasure for himself and is not rich
toward God."



About the Cover: It is foolish to reduce our lives to procuring posses-
sions just to let them go when we die. These things do not compare
to the eternal treasures Christ won for us. We can let go of our need to
store up earthly treasures because we know what the Lord promises in
the life to come (Romans 8:32).